



Five combat-loaded Marines of the 1st Division clamber on board a helicopter as the first battalion combat airlift by helicopter gets under way. The Marines were flown northward to the front lines by helicopters of HMR-161, the first helicopter transport squadron ever to see combat.

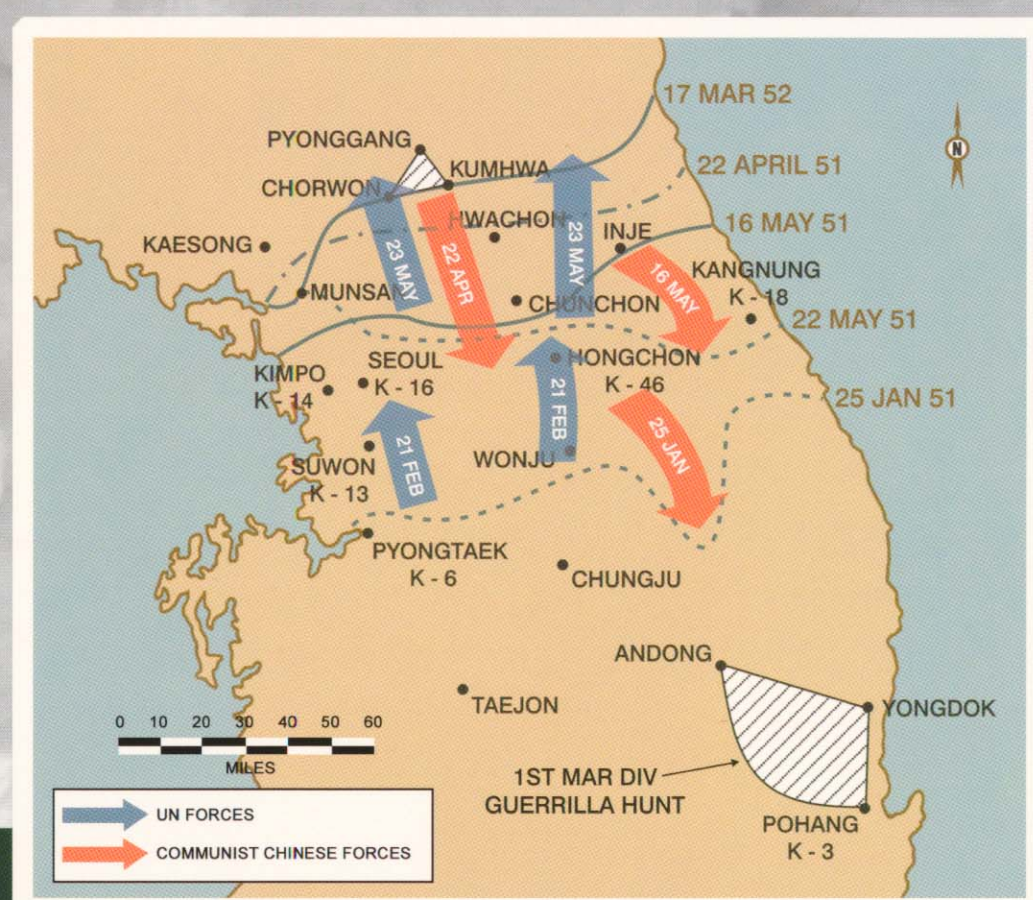
Loading and firing their 105mm howitzers are crews from Battery I, 11th Marines. The guns are providing artillery support for infantrymen of the 7th Marines in the Yanggu area of North Korea.



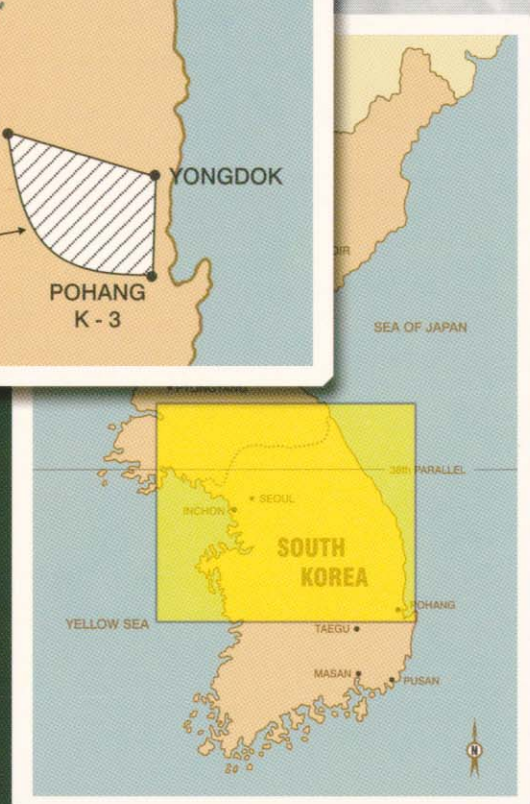
A rifleman of the 5th Marines searches enemy emplacements on the central Korean front.



Elements of the 7th Marines move across rice paddies in central Korea.



Dates and actions of forces on the East-Central Front.



EAST-CENTRAL FRONT

JANUARY 1951 - MARCH 1952 : Marine Operations in the East - Central Front of Korea covered a series of actions ranging from small unit anti-guerilla patrols to joint UN operations directed by the new theater commander, General Ridgway. While initial truce talks commenced in Kaesong, Marines were in the forefront of battle in places like the "Punchbowl" and fought inch by inch for ownership of terrain in the "Hill Battles".